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<b>PETITION FEE</b> Under 37 CFR 1.17(f), (g) & (h) <b>TRANSMITTAL</b> (Fees are subject to annual revision)		Application Number <b>10/828,287</b>	
		Filing Date <b>April 21, 2004</b>	
		First Named Inventor <b>Daiki NAKATSUKA</b>	
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
		Attorney Docket Number <b>501.43790X00</b>	

**Enclosed is a petition filed under 37 CFR 1.17(h) that requires a processing fee (37 CFR 1.17(f), (g), or (h)). Payment of \$ 130.00 is enclosed.**

This form should be included with the above-mentioned petition and faxed or mailed to the Office using the appropriate Mail Stop (e.g., Mail Stop Petition), if applicable. For transmittal of processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17(i), see form PTO/SB/17i.

**Payment of Fees** (small entity amounts are NOT available for the petition (fees))

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees to Deposit Account No. **50-1417**:

☐ petition fee under 37 CFR 1.17(f), (g) or (h)
☒ any deficiency of fees and credit of any overpayments

Enclose a duplicative copy of this form for fee processing.

☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

☒ Payment by credit card (From PTO-2038 or equivalent enclosed). Do not provide credit card information on this form.

<b>Petition Fees under 37 CFR 1.17(f):</b> For petitions filed under: § 1.53(e) - to accord a filing date. § 1.57(a) - to according a filing date. § 1.182 - for decision on a question not specifically provided for. § 1.183 - to suspend the rules. § 1.378(e) for reconsideration of decision on petition refusing to accept delayed payment of maintenance fee in an expired patent. § 1.741(b) - to accord a filing date to an application under §1.740 for extension of a patent term.	<b>Fee \$400</b>	<b>Fee Code 1462</b>
<b>Petition Fees under 37 CFR 1.17(g):</b> For petitions filed under: §1.12 - for access to an assignment record. §1.14 - for access to an application. §1.47 - for filing by other than all the inventors or a person not the inventor. §1.59 - for expungement of information. §1.103(a) - to suspend action in an application. §1.136(b) - for review of a request for extension of time when the provisions of section 1.136(a) are not available. §1.295 - for review of refusal to publish a statutory invention registration. §1.296 - to withdraw a request for publication of a statutory invention registration filed on or after the date the notice of intent to publish issued. §1.377 - for review of decision refusing to accept and record payment of a maintenance fee filed prior to expiration of a patent. §1.550(c) - for patent owner requests for extension of time in <u>ex parte</u> reexamination proceedings. §1.956 - for patent owner requests for extension of time in <u>inter partes</u> reexamination proceedings. § 5.12 - for expedited handling of a foreign filing license. § 5.15 - for changing the scope of a license. § 5.25 - for retroactive license.	<b>Fee \$200</b>	<b>Fee code 1463</b>
<b>Petition Fees under 37 CFR 1.17(h):</b> For petitions filed under: §1.19(g) - to request documents in a form other than that provided in this part. §1.84 - for accepting color drawings or photographs. §1.91 - for entry of a model or exhibit. §1.102(d) - to make an application special. §1.138(c) - to expressly abandon an application to avoid publication. §1.313 - to withdraw an application from issue. §1.314 - to defer issuance of a patent.	<b>Fee \$130</b>	<b>Fee Code 1464</b>

Name (Print/Type)	Carl I. Brundidge	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,621
Signature		Date	January 27, 2005

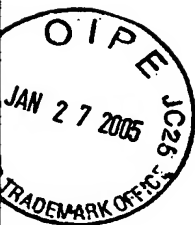
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Daiki NAKATSUKA

Serial No.: 10/828,287

Filed: April 21, 2004

For: COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR ALLOCATING STORAGE AREA TO  
COMPUTER BASED ON SECURITY LEVEL

**PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.102(d) and MPEP. §708.02, VIII**

**MS Petition**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 27, 2005

Sir:

**1. Petition**

Applicants hereby petition to make this application **Special**, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.102(d) and MPEP 708.02, VIII. The present invention is a new application filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on April 21, 2004 and as such has not received any examination by the Examiner.

**2. Claims**

Applicants hereby represent that all the claims in the present application are directed to a single invention. If upon examination it is determined that all the claims presented are not directed to a single invention, Applicants will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the granting of special status.

### **3. Search**

Applicants hereby submit that a pre-examination search, a copy of which is attached, has been made by a professional searcher.

The field of search covered:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Subclasses</u>
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709	239
711	113, 114 and 163
713	150

The above subclasses represent areas deemed to contain subject matter of interest to one or more of the search features. Additionally, a computer database search was conducted on the USPTO systems EAST and WEST; a keyword search was conducted in Class 707, subclasses 9 and 10; Class 709, subclasses 223, 225, 227, 229, 238 and 250; Class 711, subclasses 112 and 162; and Class 713, subclasses 151, 152, 153 and 168; and a literature search was also conducted on the Internet for relevant non-patent documents and a search for foreign patent documents on the Espacenet and Delphion databases. Examiner Jack Lane in Class 711 (Art Unit 2188) was consulted in confirming the field of search.

### **4. Copy of References**

A listing of all references found by the professional searcher is provided by a Form PTO-1449 and copies of the references and the Form PTO-1449 are submitted as part of an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on October 6, 2004. A copy of said October 6, 2004 Information Disclosure Statement along with the Search Report is attached herewith without the references.

## **5. Detailed Discussion of the References and Distinctions Between the References and the Claims**

Below is a discussion of the references uncovered by the search and cited in the IDS filed on October 6, 2004 (copy attached) that appear to be most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims of the present application, and which discussion particularly points out how Applicants' claimed subject matter is distinguishable over those references. All other references uncovered by the search and cited in the IDS filed on October 6, 2004 (copy attached) are **not** treated in detail herein.

### **a. Detailed Discussion of the References**

Sakai (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0093524) shows IPsec processing apparatuses, which use an IPsec for implementing security on an Internet path in the case where two different centers communicate via the Internet; and an IPsec setting server apparatus, which manages IPsec settings of the IPsec processing apparatuses, in which the IPsec setting server apparatus includes means for collectively managing policies of the IPsec to be applied among the IPsec processing apparatuses. The distribution policy storage section (16) is referred to from the request processing section (15) and stores an IPsec policy necessary for determining a requested setting. The management table (17) is referred to and set from the request processing section (15) and stores information on respective kinds of SA communication requested to be set. See figures, summary and sections [0076]-[0080].

Sato (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0158966) shows a storage area network system including storage device-containing storage subsystems, fiber

channel switches, and servers. Upon reception of the access request (command) from the server (100), the storage subsystem (102) judges, from information (command parameters) attached to the access request and information managed by the storage subsystem (102), whether access to any one of the storage control master device (12) and storage control replica devices (13) by the server (100) is allowed or not. The system includes a fiber channel switch (101) includes a plurality of connection ports (101a), a path control portion (101c), a processor (101d), and a network interface (101i). See figures, summary and sections [0051]-[0054].

Acharya et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0140193) shows methods, apparatus and systems for virtualization of iSCSI storage. Storage area network (SAN) is composed of storage devices (104, 105), gateway (106) and hosts (101, 102, 103). Hosts talk iSCSI to the gateway. Gateways talk iSCSI to the devices. A SCSI (iSCSI) command addresses a logical unit number (LUN), specifies an offset and the number of blocks, to read and write including the starting block. Through IPsec, it supports different levels of security, simple authentication, authentication plus integrity of packet or full privacy. See figures and sections [0026]-[0037].

Kano et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0163568) shows a storage system comprising, a storage apparatus; a management server for holding both a storage location of file data stored into the storage apparatus and management information used to manage an access condition; and a server apparatus for accepting an access request of the file data via a network from a computer by way of a first protocol, and for accessing the storage apparatus by way of a second protocol in response to the access request issued from the computer

based upon the management information. See figures, claims 1-5 and sections [0035]-[0039].

Dobberpuhl et al (U.S. Patent Number 6,754,718) shows a method apparatus and computer program product for providing access to host attribute information in a storage area network. The method and apparatus provides a second command being sent to the storage array. The second command is an attach command (390) which is used in configuration of the SAN (100). The attach command 390 is also a vendor unique SCSI command which identifies the available data paths which are accessible and visible to a user connecting to the SAN (100). The attach command (390) determines the visible paths that a user of the SAN can see. See figures and col.5, lns.59+.

Yamakawa et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,738,877), Giniger et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,751,729), Kronenberg (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0078227), Murty et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0084290), Pham et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0115447), Kitani et al (U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0229690), and Plotkin et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0153642) shows a computer systems managing security level in a internet protocol network.

**b. Distinctions Between the References and the Claims**

The present invention as recited in the claims is not taught or suggested by any of the above noted references whether taken individually or in combination with each other or in combination with any of the other references now of record.

The present invention as recited in the claims is directed to a computer and a

management computer wherein the computer system includes a computer, a storage system connected to the computer over a network a second computer connected to the computer and the storage system. According to the present invention, the second computer includes information about the storage system, selects, in response a request from the computer, the storage system related to the request based on the information and transmits a command to the selected storage system for creating a storage area for use by the computer based on the request of the computer. Further, according to the present invention, the storage system creates the storage area corresponding to the request of the computer in accordance with the command and force a creation completion notice to the second computer wherein after notice, the second compute notifies the computer of path information for storage area created by the storage system.

The management computer has a control section, a memory and an interface which connects it a network having a connection the computer and the storage system. As described above, the memory includes the information and the control section performs operations similar to those described above as being performed by the second computer.

The above described features of the present invention are not taught or suggested by the above described references or any of the other references of record whether taken individually or in combination with each other. Particularly, for example, the above described features of the present invention as recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Sakai.

As described above, Sakai teaches an IPSec processing apparatus which uses an IPsec for implementing security on an internet path wherein two different

centers communicate via the internet and an IPsec setting server apparatus which manages IPsec settings of the IPsec processing apparatus in which the IPsec setting server apparatus includes for collectively monitoring policies of the IPsec to be applied among the IPsec processing apparatuses.

Sakai does not teach or suggest a computer system having first computer, a storage system and a second computer wherein the second computer includes memory which stores information about the storage system. Further, Sakai does not teach or suggest that the second computer selects, in response to a request from the computer the storage system corresponding to the request based on the information stored in the memory of the second computer. Still further, there is no teaching or suggestion in Sakai that the second computer transmits a command to the selected storage system for creating a storage area for use by the computer based on the request of the computer and that the storage system in response to the command from the second computer creates the storage area meeting the request of the computer and force creation completion notice to the second computer. The second computer upon receiving the creation completion notice notifies the computer of the information regarding the paths for the storage created by the storage system as per the request. These features are clearly not taught or suggested by Sakai. Thus, Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as recited in the claims are not anticipated by nor render obvious by the teachings of Sakai.

The above described deficiencies of Sakai are also evident in each of the other references of record. Therefore, combining the teachings of Sakai with one or more of the other references described above and the other references of record would still fail to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as recited in



the claims.

Therefore, based on the above, Applicants submit that the claims of the present application are patentable over the above described prior art and the other prior art of record.

**6. Fee (37 C.F.R. 1.17(i))**

The fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is to be paid by:

☒ the Credit Card Payment Form (attached) for \$130.00.


☐ charging Account \_\_\_\_\_ the sum of \$130.00.

A duplicate of this petition is attached.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (501.43790X00).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl I. Brundidge  
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc  
Enclosures  
(703) 684-1120

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Daiki NAKATSUKA

Serial No.: 10/828,287

Filed: April 21, 2004

For: COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR ALLOCATING STORAGE AREA TO  
COMPUTER BASED ON SECURITY LEVEL

COPY

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98****MS Amendment**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 6, 2004

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith copies of the documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

Each of the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 is in the English language.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (501.43790X00) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Carl I. Brundidge  
Registration No. 29,621  
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

CIB/jdc  
(703) 312-6600

**FORM PTO-1449** U.S. Department of  
Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark  
Office

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

501.43790X00

SERIAL NO.

10/828,287

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

D. NAKATSUKA

FILING DATE

April 21, 2004

GROUP

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER								DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6	7	3	8	8	7	7	5/04	Yamakawa et al				
	6	7	5	1	7	2	9	6/04	Giniger et al				
	6	7	5	4	7	1	8	6/04	Dobberpuhl et al				
2 0 0 2	0	0	7	8	2	2	7	6/02	Kronenberg				
2 0 0 3	0	0	8	4	2	9	0	5/03	Murty et al				
2 0 0 3	0	1	1	5	4	4	7	6/03	Pham et al				
2 0 0 3	0	1	4	0	1	9	3	7/03	Acharya et al				
2 0 0 3	0	1	5	8	9	6	6	8/03	Sato				
2 0 0 3	0	1	6	3	5	6	8	8/03	Kano et al				
2 0 0 3	0	2	2	9	6	9	0	12/03	Kitani et al				

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])

**FORM PTO-1449** U.S. Department of  
Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark  
Office

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

501.43790X00

SERIAL NO.

10/828,287

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

Daiki NAKATSUKA

FILING DATE

April 21, 2004

GROUP

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
2 0 0 4	0 0 9 3 5 2 4	5/04	Sakai			
2 0 0 4	0 1 5 3 6 4 2	8/04	Plotkin et al			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	ABSTRACT
					YES NO

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	"iSCSI for Storage Networking", source(s): SNIA IP Storage Forum, pp 1-7.
	"iSCSI Building Blocks for IP Storage Networking", source(s): SNIA IP Storage Forum, pp 1-12.
	"Towards Securing information End-to-End: networked Storage Security Update and Best Practices", source(s): Hitachi, pp. 1-26.
	"Gaining Control of Security Patch Management", source(s): Microsoft, pp. 1-24.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])



September 2, 2004

COPY

Terry W. Kramer\*  
Arli M. Amado\*  
Andreas Baltatzis  
Hans J. Crosby\*

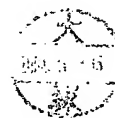
Of Counsel  
Tyler S. Brown

Registered Patent Agents  
Thomas A. Powers, Ph.D.  
Matthew J. Gerike

Technology Specialists  
C. Michael Obinna  
Raj C. Patel  
Sijan N. Karimi, M.S.  
Brijesh S. Patel, M.S.  
Paul I. Obinyi  
A. Todd Buttram  
Sung P. Ham, M.S.  
Samir P. Patel  
T. Shrestha, M.S., M.I.P.  
Mita Biswas, Ph.D.  
David Groesbeck  
John S. Troy  
Kyle G. Hepner  
Nirav B. Sheth

\*Member Bar of the State of Virginia

Mr. Noboru Otsuka  
HITACHI LTD, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP  
IP Development & Management Division, Patent Dept 4  
292, Yoshida-cho, Totsuka-ku, Yokohama-shi  
Kanagawa 244-0817 Japan



RE: Petition-To-Make-Special Search  
For: **COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR ALLOCATING  
STORAGE AREA TO COMPUTER BASED ON  
SECURITY LEVEL**  
**U.S. APPLICATION NO. 10/828287**  
Your Ref. No.: 340400021US01  
Our Ref. No.: HIT 1119

Dear Mr. Otsuka :

We have completed the petition-to-make-special search at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding the above-identified invention. The field of search covered Class 709, subclass 239 (U.S. & Foreign); Class 711, subclasses 113 U.S. & Foreign), 114 (U.S. & Foreign) and 163 (U.S. & Foreign); and Class 713, subclass 150 (U.S. & Foreign). Additionally, a computer database search was conducted on the USPTO systems EAST and WEST; a keyword search was conducted in Class 707, subclasses 9 and 10; Class 709, subclasses 223, 225, 227, 229, 238 and 250; Class 711, subclasses 112 and 162; and Class 713, subclasses 151, 152, 153 and 168; and a literature search was also conducted on the Internet for relevant non-patent documents and a search for foreign patent documents on the Espacenet and Delphion databases. Examiner Jack Lane in Class 711 (Art Unit 2188) was consulted in confirming the field of search.

The search was directed towards a computer system for allocating storage area to computer based on security level. In particular, the search was directed towards claims 1-18 of U.S. Patent Application Number 10/828287. The claims describe a computer system comprising a computer, a storage system connected to the computer over a network, a second computer connected to the computer and the storage system including information about the storage system where the storage system meeting the request based on information and transmits a command, storage system creating the storage area meeting the request of the computer, and the second computer notifying the computer of path information. A management computer connected to a computer and a storage system comprising a control section; memory; an interface to be connected to a network; the memory including information indicating whether or not

**Crystal Plaza One**  
1 Jefferson Davis Hwy  
Suite 1101  
Arlington, Virginia  
22202  
tel: 703.413.5000  
fax: 703.413.5048

[www.kramerip.com](http://www.kramerip.com)

Mr. Noboru Otsuka  
September 2, 2004  
Page Two

a device in the storage system to be connected to the network is capable of an IPSec process, a command for creating the storage area to interrelates to the device capable of the IPSec process based on the request. Additionally, a computer system comprises a second computer notifying the computer of address information in the network assigned to the device capable of IPSec process, and all the elements as further claimed in the disclosure provided.

Please note the enclosed documents listed in numerical order for convenience:

**U.S. Patent Number**

6,738,877

6,751,729

6,754,718

**Inventor(s)**

Yamakawa et al.

Giniger et al.

Dobberpuhl et al.

**Published Patent Application**

2002/0078227

2003/0084290

2003/0115447

2003/0140193

2003/0158966

2003/0163568

2003/0229690

2004/0093524

2004/0153642

**Inventor(s)**

Kronenberg

Murty et al.

Pham et al.

Acharya et al.

Sato\*

Kano et al.

Kitani et al.\*

Sakai

Plotkin et al.

\*Patents assigned to Hitachi

**Non-Patent Literature:**

“iSCSI for Storage Networking”, source(s): SNIA IP Storage Forum

“iSCSI Building Blocks for IP Storage Networking”, source(s): SNIA IP Storage Forum

“Towards Securing Information End-toEnd: networked Storage Security Update and Best Practices”, source(s): Hitachi

“Gaining Control of Security Patch Management”, source(s): Microsoft





**Brief Description Of The Documents:**

U.S. Patent Application Number 2004/0093524 (Sakai) shows an IPsec processing apparatuses, which use an IPsec for securing security on the Internet path in the case where different two centers communicate via the Internet; and an IPsec setting server apparatus, which manages IPsec settings of the IPsec processing apparatuses, in which the IPsec setting server apparatus includes means for collectively managing policies of the IPsec to be applied among the IPsec processing apparatuses. The distribution policy storage section (16) is referred to from the request processing section (15) and stores an IPsec policy necessary for determining a requested setting. The management table (17) is referred to and set from the request processing section (15) and stores information on respective kinds of SA communication requested to be set. See figures, summary and sections [0076]-[0080].

U.S. Patent Application Number 2003/0158966 (Sato) shows a storage area network system including storage device-containing storage subsystems, fiber channel switches, and servers. Upon reception of the access request (command) from the server (100), the storage subsystem (102) judges, from information (command parameters) attached to the access request and information managed by the storage subsystem (102), whether access to any one of the storage control master device (12) and storage control replica devices (13) by the server (100) is allowed or not. The system includes a fiber channel switch (101) includes a plurality of connection ports (101a), a path control portion (101c), a processor (101d), and a network interface (101i). See figures, summary and sections [0051]-[0054].

U.S. Patent Application Number 2003/0140193 (Acharya et al.) shows methods, apparatus and systems for virtualization of iSCSI storage. Storage area network (SAN) is composed of storage devices (104, 105), gateway (106) and hosts (101, 102, 103). Hosts talk iSCSI to the gateway. Gateways talk iSCSI to the devices. A SCSI (iSCSI) command addresses a logical unit number (LUN), specifies an offset and the number of blocks, to read and write including the starting block. Through IPsec, it supports different levels of security, simple authentication, authentication plus integrity of packet or full privacy. See figures and sections [0026]-[0037].

U.S. Patent Application Number 2003/0163568 (Kano et al.) shows a storage system comprising, a storage apparatus; a management server for holding both a storage location of file data stored into the storage apparatus and management information used to manage an access condition; and a server apparatus for accepting an access request of the file data via a network from a computer by way of a first protocol, and for accessing the storage apparatus by way of a second protocol in response to the access request issued from the computer based upon the management information. See figures, claims 1-5 and sections [0035]-[0039].



Mr. Noboru Otsuka  
September 2, 2004  
Page Four

U.S. Patent Number 6,754,718 (Dobberpuhl, et al.) shows a method apparatus and computer program product for providing access to host attribute information in a storage area network. The method and apparatus provides a second command being sent to the storage array. The second command is an attach command (390) which is used in configuration of the SAN (100). The attach command 390 is also a vendor unique SCSI command which identifies the available data paths which are accessible and visible to a user connecting to the SAN (100). The attach command (390) determines the visible paths that a user of the SAN can see. See figures and col.5, lns.59+.

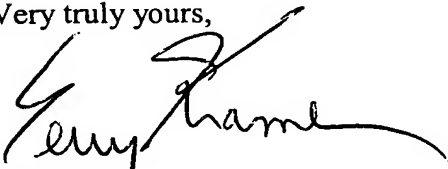
U.S. Patent Numbers 6,738,877 (Yamakawa et al.), 6,751,729 (Giniger et al.), U.S. Patent Application Numbers 2002/0078227 (Kronenberg), 2003/0084290 (Murty et al.), 2003/0115447 (Pham et al.), 2003/0229690 (Kitani et al.), and 2004/0153642 (Plotkin et al.) shows a computer systems managing security level in a internet protocol network.

While the above-noted Examiner was consulted and confirmed our opinion that the most relevant areas for this invention were reviewed, further searching may uncover additional patents. NOTE: The field of search included the most pertinent areas identified by the Examiner and our office as containing relevant patents.

Enclosed are copies of the cited documents and our invoice for services rendered and disbursements for this matter.

As always, if you have any questions regarding this search, please do not hesitate to call us at (703) 413-5000.

Very truly yours,



Terry W. Kramer  
Direct Dial (703) 413-3674  
E-mail: [terry@kramerip.com](mailto:terry@kramerip.com)

TWK/RCP/css  
Enclosure

